GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1859
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2016
Special Literacy Programmes
Ajmal Maulana Badruddin;Singh Shri Ravneet;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai Dhanjibhai

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the literacy rate is dismal in all States in the country, particularly in Gujarat, Assam and Punjab;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
(c) whether the Government proposes launching a special literacy mission to change the scenario in comparatively low literacy States and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) if not, whether the Government would provide a special package to such States to overcome low literacy levels?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)
(a) & (b) No Madam. A statement indicating State/UT/Gender-wise details of literacy rates, in the age group of 7 and above, as reported by Census 2011 is annexed. The literacy rates in Gujarat, Assam and Punjab are 78.03 per cent, 72.19 per cent and 75.84 per cent respectively compared to the national literacy rate of 72.98 per cent.
(c) & (d) In order to improve the literacy rate in the country, "Saakshar Bharat", a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented since October, 2009 in a phased manner in rural areas of 410 districts in 26 States and one UT that had adult female literacy rate of 50 per cent and below as per Census 2001, and left wing extremism affected districts. The main focus of the programme is on SCs, STs, minorities and other disadvantaged groups. The objective of the programme is to raise the literacy level of the country to 80 percent and reduce the gender gap to 10 percentage points by the end of XII Five Year Plan.
***